## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

## /JP2004/015566 CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER PC 7 B24B37/04 IPC 7 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (dassification system followed by dassification symbols) IPC 7 **B24B** Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Category ° 1 - 18EP 0 774 323 A (APPLIED MATERIALS INC) χ 21 May 1997 (1997-05-21) columns 66-72; figures 40-50 1 - 18PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN A vol. 1997, no. 01, 31 January 1997 (1997-01-31) -& JP 08 229807 A (FUJIKOSHI MACH CORP), 10 September 1996 (1996-09-10) abstract; figures 1 - 18EP 1 034 887 A (EBARA CORP) 13 September 2000 (2000-09-13) abstract; figures 1 - 18WO 99/41022 A (STRASBAUGH) A 19 August 1999 (1999-08-19) abstract; figures Patent family members are listed in annex. Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. X Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance Invention \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the International "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone 'Y' document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. other means document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of mailing of the international search report Dale of the actual completion of the international search 20/01/2005 12 January 2005 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 Garella, M

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